



CITY OF CHIPPEWA FALLS, WISCONSIN

## **Committee No. 1**

### **Revenues, Disbursements, Water and Wastewater**

Committee 1 met on Wednesday August 5<sup>th</sup> at 5:00 pm in Council Chamber at City Hall, 30 West Central Street, Chippewa Falls, WI.

**Council Members:** Michael Dahlby, CW King, Susan Zukowski

**Attendees:** Lynne Bauer, Lee Douglas, Connie Freagon, Bill Faherty

Items of business to be discussed or acted upon at this meeting are shown on the attached agenda below:

1. Discuss Safety Committee recommendations from their July 29 meeting regarding Police Department vehicle override switches and Fire Department Chevron stripes with possible recommendations to the Council.

Safety fund currently has \$24,000 available, money in this fund is to be used for safety measures that can improve conditions for employees working for the city. The Safety Committee is recommending spending funds on two items:

1. The purchase of 4 override switches for police vehicles to allow the passenger side air bags to be turned off. Currently if the air bag were to deploy it could/would throw the mounted computer into the driver of the car.
2. The purchase of Chevron stripes for the back of engine 3 to bring the engine up to current standards. All new trucks will come with the Chevron stripes.

**Motion** by Dahlby/King to allow the Police Department to purchase override switches for \$275 each out of the safety funds. All present, voting aye, motion carried.

**Motion** by Dahlby/King to allow the Fire Department to purchase Chevron Stripes for the back of Engine 3 in an amount not to exceed \$1,800 from the safety fund. All present, voting aye, motion carried.

2. Discuss items that could be included in an upcoming bond issue such as department capital request items and funding for upcoming projects. Possible recommendations to the Council.

General discussion of bonding issues and initial review of department capital request items. An additional list of projects and related expenses will be available at the next meeting. Capital expenditures will be reviewed with department heads in two weeks.

3. General budget discussion including any updates regarding operational requests with possible recommendations to the Council.

General discussion of the budget with an updated projection of the 2010 budgetary numbers. The current numbers have projected expenses at \$12,645,517 and revenues at \$11,914,237. This is a projected deficit of \$731,280 prior to any increase in the levy. These are preliminary numbers and subject to change over the coming months as work is completed by committee 1, committee 2 and once revenues are finalized in a couple of months.

Committee 1 focused on developing a list of ideas for revenue increase and operational expense decreases to be further explored:

- What would the cost savings be for moving City Hall and the Streets department to (4) 10-hour days? [Lynne will develop a what-if]
- What programs/non-profit organizations is the city currently supporting/donations being made? [Lynne will provide summary for next meeting]
- Close City Hall on Fridays Memorial Day to Labor Day
- Combining City/County Street Departments – will it cost less to source projects from the county? [Discuss with Rick when reviewing Dept Budgets]
- Wheel Tax
- Room Tax
  - Should we raise it?
  - Would it impact tourism?
  - How do we compare to Eau Claire?
- Can we create a City Heating Plan? For example can we heat the library from a new City Hall boiler system? [Discuss with Rick when reviewing Dept budgets]
- What if the pool was only open 5 or 6 days/week instead of seven? What would be the expense/revenue mix be? What do the daily pool statistics look like? [Discuss with Bill when reviewing Dept Budgets]
- What if pool closed in am and opened only later in the day? [Discuss with Bill when reviewing Dept budgets]
- Can we start a city endowment fund for long-term park operational financing? [Discuss with Bill when reviewing Dept budgets]
- Yard waste stickers/fees
- Fire Dept fees – increase due to paramedic services? [Discuss with Tom when reviewing Dept budgets]
- Encourage city wide composting and recycling
- Discuss with all department heads the opportunities for merging/combining services
- Alley Management [Discuss with Glen when reviewing Dept budgets]
- Snow plowing [Discuss with Glen when reviewing Dept budgets]
- Raising fees for adult parks & rec services Alley Management [Discuss with Bill when reviewing Dept budgets]
- Negotiate with county library revenues [Discuss with Rosemary when reviewing Dept budgets]
- Dispatch merger with county – what is the potential financial impact in 2010, 2011, etc? [Discuss with Wayne when reviewing Dept budgets]

Meetings with department heads will be on Wednesday August 19<sup>th</sup> from 5 to 8 and Thursday August 20<sup>th</sup> from 4:30 to 6:30. The topics for discussion will include:

1. Operational expenses
2. Capital expenses
3. Ideas for increasing revenues
4. Ideas for decreasing expenses

A public forum is tentatively scheduled for September 3<sup>rd</sup> at 6:00 pm. This time will be used to share information on where the budget is at and take public comment on services, revenue and expenses.

**Motion** by Dahlby/King to direct staff to analyze current room tax revenue and projected relative opportunities to increase the rate. All present, voting aye, motion carried.

**Motion** by Dahlby/King to direct staff to analyze the current number of vehicles registered in the city and estimate the potential wheel tax revenue. All present, voting aye, motion carried.

**Motion** by Dahlby/King to direct Parks Dept to develop a plan to bring pool expenses and revenues closer together and establish an endowment fund for long-term parks department operational funding. All present, voting aye, motion carried.

**Motion** by Dahlby to direct staff to analyze potential savings through furloughs for Committee 2 consideration. Motion died for a lack of second.

4. Discuss schedule for meeting with department heads regarding 2010 budget requests with possible recommendations to the Council.

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5. Adjournment

**Motion** by King/Zukowski to adjourn, all present, voting aye, motion carried. Adjourned at 7:20 pm.

Minutes Submitted by:  
Susan Zukowski, Chairperson